

Friendly Village of Gorham

Community News January 2026

January Dates to Remember

- 1 New Year's Day
- 2 World Introvert Day
- 4 National Spaghetti Day
- 6 National Cuddle Up Day
- 7 Orthodox Christmas
- 18 World Snow Day
- 19 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- 21 National Squirrel Appreciation Day
- 23 National Pie Day
- 24 International Day of Education
- 25 Opposite Day
- 29 National Puzzle Day
- 31 National Hot Chocolate Day



Happy Birthday
to all Residents
celebrating a
January birthday.

We hope you
have a great one!



HAPPY NEW YEAR



Congratulations to the 2025 Community Holiday Raffle Winners

Cindy Croy
Burton Haskell
Cynthia O'Brien
Donna Brookings
Dawn Beaulieu
Cathy Dillon-McHugh
Christine Connick
Liz Coughlin
Pat McKeen
Cindy Lendway
Linda Loehlein
Kellie Myers

January Reminders

Don't forget to lock up

- * Lock the doors and windows of your home.
- * Lock your car doors, trunks, and truck toolboxes.
- * Never leave valuables in your vehicle.
- * Always report any mischievous conduct to the police.

MANAGER'S CORNER

Remember to remove snow from your roof if more than 6" has accumulated. If you don't, ice dams will occur and can damage your roof, causing water leaks

Don't forget to get your dog registered with the Gorham Town Clerk's Office before **January 31, 2026** to avoid paying a \$25 fine.

Once licensed please bring proof and copy of Rabies vaccination to the Friendly Village Office for our files.
Proof of current inoculations for dogs and cats is also required yearly.

2026 is finally here, I hope you all had a great holiday with family and friends! With very little snow to date, I have included a few reminders for when it does come, and it will! Please no parking on the streets during or after snowstorms. Obstacles in the roadway during a storm are very hard to work around. we would hate to cause damage or hardship for anyone. Residents are reminded to remove the snow after six inches or more has accumulated on your roof; this will prevent ice dam build-ups causing water to back up into your home. If you haven't removed your hose from the sill cock, you better do it now. it's possible that damage has already occurred. As the Clubhouse is equipped with a generator, we are looking for Resident Volunteers to "staff" the Clubhouse during power outages. Please contact the office for more information if you are interested in volunteering.

How to Prevent Frozen Pipes in Your Mobile Home

December 4, 2025, By Eddie Johnson

Step 1: Insulate Pipes and the Underside of the Home

One of the most effective ways to prevent freezing is proper insulation. Start by wrapping all exposed plumbing with pipe insulation sleeves or UL-rated heat tape designed for mobile homes. When you winterize mobile home plumbing under the residence, you drastically reduce the risk of freezing.



Step 2: Keep Water Flowing During Freezes

Even a small amount of movement in your pipes can prevent freezing. On extremely cold nights, open your faucets slightly and let water drip. Moving water doesn't freeze as easily, and these simple steps can relieve pressure inside pipes if ice begins to form.

If your mobile home has multiple bathrooms or a long plumbing layout, run a slow trickle in the farthest faucet from the water source to keep water circulating through the entire system. If you run a faucet near the water source, pipes on the far end of your home may still freeze.

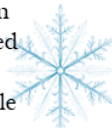


Step 3: Seal Air Leaks and Protect Crawl Spaces

Cold air infiltration is one of the main causes of frozen pipes in mobile homes. Inspect your home's crawl spaces for cracks, gaps, or openings where frigid air can creep in. Common culprits include loose skirting, unsealed vents, and small holes around plumbing lines or electrical wiring.



Use foam boards or spray foam to seal these openings. You can also add insulated access panels to enclose the areas. If you need to perform maintenance later, simply take the access panel down. A well-sealed crawl space keeps temperatures more stable and reduces the risk of freezing.



Step 4: Maintain a Consistent Indoor Temperature

Consistency is essential when it comes to protecting your plumbing. Keep your home's thermostat set to a reasonable temperature, even if you'll be away. Sudden temperature drops can cause your pipes to freeze overnight.

For extra protection, you may want to use small space heaters under sinks or in laundry rooms. Just make sure there are no flammable materials nearby.

Step 5: Know What to Do if Pipes Freeze or Burst

Even if you know how to prevent frozen pipes in a mobile home, extreme cold temperatures could still cause a pipe to burst. If a pipe freezes, you'll need to:

- * Shut off your main water supply immediately to stop additional flow and pressure buildup
- * Open faucets throughout the home to relieve trapped pressure
- * Gently thaw frozen sections using a hair dryer or heating pad
- * Once the pipes have thawed, inspect them for leaks
- * If a pipe bursts or the damage is extensive, contact a licensed plumber right away.



Step 6: Long-Term Solutions

Now that you know how to prevent frozen pipes in a mobile home this winter, it's time to focus on long-term solutions. Performing regular seasonal maintenance and adding permanent insulation will help protect your plumbing year after year.

Be prepared for power outages. The cold weather brings snow and ice storms which could cause power outages. Prepare yourselves by stocking up on batteries, canned goods, bottled water, a hand-crank can opener, (Don't forget this. It's nearly impossible to open a can without one.) flashlights, battery operated lanterns, extra blankets, etc. You should have a battery-operated radio handy, to listen to emergency broadcasting, weather updates, etc.



What to do when the power goes out:

1. Keep refrigerator and/or freezer closed as much as possible.
2. Unplug all sensitive electronic equipment, including TVs, stereo, VCR, microwave oven, computer, cordless telephone, and answering machine, in the event of a power surge when the power comes back on.
3. Dress in layers of loose fitting, lightweight, warm clothing.
4. If your medications require refrigeration, check with your pharmacist for advice on storing medications during extended power outages.
5. If you notice any downed power lines, stay away from them and contact CMP immediately. Keep kids and pets away from them, too.
6. Watch for signs of hypothermia: uncontrollable shivering, memory loss, disorientation, incoherence, slurred speech, drowsiness and apparent exhaustion. If symptoms are detected, get the victim to a warm location, remove any wet clothing, warm the center of the body first and give warm, non-alcoholic beverages, if the victim is conscious. Get medical help, as soon as possible.

Although generators have been installed at the Water Building and for Sewage, there may still be instances where a Boil Order will be necessary (water main breaks, etc.). Notices will be posted on our Friendly Village Facebook page, at the Friendly Village mailboxes, and Main Entrance. You may also inquire at the office.

Why do I have to boil my water? A "Boil Water Order" is issued as a preventative measure, if there is a possibility of contamination in the drinking water system. This is a precautionary measure and will likely occur any time we have to shut down water service for extended periods of time. It is suggested to always keep several gallons of water on hand for drinking, frequently rotating the gallons with fresh water.

What should I do? You should boil any water you are going to consume for drinking, mixing baby's formulas, washing vegetables, brushing teeth or making ice, for at least five minutes.

What about cooking and washing? If you are going to boil the water while cooking, prior boiling is not necessary. It is not necessary to boil water for washing clothes, dishes or bathing. Small children should be monitored so they don't swallow the bath water.

How long will the Boil Order Last? The boil order must remain in effect until we have lab results from our testing lab and certification from the State of Maine Drinking Water program allowing us to lift the boil order. These tests take, at a minimum, 24 hours.

How do I know the boil order has been lifted? Notices will be posted on Facebook, at the Friendly Village mailboxes and Main Entrance, or you may call the office to confirm.

POLICE - FIRE- RESCUE,
Emergency dial: 9-1-1

Non-emergency dial: 839-5581

**For Friendly Village
Maintenance Emergencies
(Water-Sewer-Power)**



**Call:
207-295-5286**

**For Use In An Emergency Only
Weekends & After Office Hours**

Friendly Village of Gorham

5 Ash Drive, Gorham, ME 04038
Phone: 839-5577 Fax: 839-3233

friendlyvillage@mainemobilehomes.com

www.mainemobilehomes.com

facebook.com/friendlyvillage.ofgorham

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9-4



Notary services are available in
the Friendly Village Office.

SNOW PLOWING



Steve Martin
207-229-2011

James Meehan
207-590-3618

ROOF CLEARING

Peter Lavoie
339-793-0429

Anyone who would like to advertise
services please call the office to advertise
here on the newsletter.
207-839-5577

Crafting

Pine Point Quilters

January 5th & 19th

6:30pm-8:00pm

Pine Point Firehouse

12 King Street, Scarborough

Itty Bitty Knitty Committee

January 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29

5:00pm-7:00pm

Owlbear's Rest

506 Main Street, Suite 26A

Westbrook

Scarborough Library Knitting
Group

January 3, 10, 17, 24, & 31

10:00am-12:00pm

Scarborough Public Library

48 Gorham Road,

Scarborough



January Events



Fun & Games

Bingo

January 6, 13, 20 & 27

10:00am-3:00pm

Portland Elks Lodge 188

1945B Congress Street, Portland

Trivia Night

January 14th, 7:00pm-9:00pm

Quill Books & Beverage

1 Westbrook Common Unit 5,

Westbrook

Game Night at Woodfords Club

January 3rd & 10th

6:30pm-10:00pm

Woodfords Club

179 Woodford Street, Portland

Cost: \$3.00



Health & Safety

Free Car Seat Checks:

January 8th, 3:00pm-6:00pm

South Portland Fire

Department

Western Avenue Station

34 James Baka Drive, South

Portland

January 17th, 10:00am-1:00pm

Windham Fire Department

718 Roosevelt Trail, Windham

For Kids

Rhythm & Rhyme Story Time

for Babies & Toddlers

January 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29

10:00am-11:00pm

Scarborough Public Library

48 Gorham Road, Scarborough

Kids LEGO Club @ Burbank

January 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29

3:00pm-5:00pm

Burbank Branch Library

377 Stevens Avenue, Portland

Kids LEGO Club @ Riverton

January 10th, 10:00 am-12:00 pm

Riverton Public Library

1600 Forest Avenue, Portland

Miscellaneous

New Year's Goat Yoga

January 3rd, 10:30am-12:00pm

Smiling Hill Farm

781 County Road, Westbrook

\$31 per person

Maine Celebration of Lights

January 3, 5:00pm-9:00pm

Cumberland Fairgrounds

197 Blanchard Road, Cumberland

General Admission: \$20.00

South Portland Farmers' Market

January 4th, 10:00am-2:00pm

January 18th, 10:00am-2:00pm

South Portland Community Center

(Casco Bay room)

21 Nelson Road, South Portland

Community Dinners

Community Homemade

Bean Supper

January 3rd, 4:00pm-5:30pm

White Rock Community

Clubhouse

34 Wilson Road, Gorham

Cost: \$6.00 to \$12.00

\$6 for children under 12 years

old

Free Community Dinner

January 4th, 5:00pm-6:30pm

First Parish in Portland

Unitarian Universalist

425 Congress Street, Portland

Bean Supper

January 10th, 4:00pm-6:00pm

Scarborough Free Baptist

Church

55 Mussey Road, Portland

Cost: \$5.00 to \$10.00

Adults-\$10/ under 12- \$5



Classic Jumble Answers

GRAFT

INEPT

SEQUEL

TROPHY

Surprise puzzle answer

She was buying the run-down corner market so

she could - RESTORE IT

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